

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 3, 2005. Claims 51 to 53 and 55 are pending in the application, with Claims 47 to 50 and 54 having been cancelled. Claims 51 to 53 and 55 have been amended, and Claims 51 and 53 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claims 47 to 55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,191,520 (Eckersley) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,959,368 (Kubo). Claims 47 to 50 and 54 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter and without conceding the correctness of their rejection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the remaining claims are respectfully requested.

Claim 51

Referring specifically to the claims, independent Claim 51 is directed to an information processing apparatus. The information processing apparatus includes a processing unit which executes processing of data from a power supplying apparatus, and a power control unit. The power control unit includes a connector which receives the data and an external power from the power supplying apparatus, and a limiter which limits the external power from the power supplying apparatus to the processing unit, for providing to the power control unit. The power control unit also includes a power providing unit which provides power for executing the processing by the processing unit, the provided power generated by adding a power supplied from a battery into a power supplied from the limiter in a case where a necessary power for the processing unit and the power control unit exceeds the external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus.

Thus, among its many features, the invention of Claim 51 provides for (i) limiting, by a limiter, an external power from a power supplying apparatus to a processing unit, for providing to a power control unit, and (ii) adding a power supplied from a battery into a power supplied from the limiter in a case where a necessary power for the processing unit and the power control unit exceeds the external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus.

By virtue of the foregoing, in which power supplied from a battery is added into a power supplied from the limiter in a case where a necessary power for a processing unit and a power control unit exceeds an external power supplied from a power supplying apparatus, power supply for the processing unit and power control unit is more likely to be ensured.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the invention of Claim 51. In particular, Eckersley and Kubo are not seen to disclose or suggest at least the features of (i) limiting, by a limiter, an external power from a power supplying apparatus to a processing unit, for providing to a power control unit, and (ii) adding a power supplied from a battery into a power supplied from the limiter in a case where a necessary power for the processing unit and the power control unit exceeds the external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus.

As understood by Applicants, Eckersley discloses a power supply system in which a convertor (14) is connected to a DC bus (16) by a master controller (22), which is controllable by master control processor (30) to disconnect the two. A secondary supply bus (44), load (38) and load (40) are connected to a DC bus (16) by slave controllers (46),

which are each controllable to effect disconnection through action of respective slave control processors (48). See Eckersley, Abstract; and Figure 1.

However, Eckersley is not seen to disclose or suggest (i) limiting, by a limiter, an external power from a power supplying apparatus to a processing unit, for providing to a power control unit, and (ii) adding a power supplied from a battery into a power supplied from the limiter in a case where a necessary power for the processing unit and the power control unit exceeds the external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus. In addition, Eckersley is not seen to disclose or suggest the attendant benefits provided by such limiting and addition of power.

Kubo has been reviewed and is not seen to compensate for the deficiencies of Eckersley. As understood by Applicants, Kubo discloses a power supply apparatus which includes a plurality of batteries and a plurality of power supply portions for connecting to loads, and a plurality of switches connecting the batteries to the power supply portions, respectively. See Kubo, Abstract. The power supply apparatus includes a control mechanism 23, AC adaptor 17 and battery 10. A switch 13 is seen to control a power from battery 10 to a power supply portion 11. See Kubo, Figure 1.

However, nothing in Kubo is seen to disclose or suggest a limiter, muchless a limiter which limits external power from a power supplying apparatus to a processing unit, for providing to a power control unit. As a consequence, Kubo is not seen to disclose or suggest (i) limiting, by a limiter, an external power from a power supplying apparatus to a processing unit, for providing to a power control unit, and (ii) adding a power supplied from a battery into a power supplied from the limiter in a case where a necessary power for the processing unit and the power control unit exceeds the external power supplied from

the power supplying apparatus. In addition, Kubo is not seen to disclose or suggest the attendant benefits provided by such limiting and addition of power.

Allowance of Claim 51 is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 53

Independent Claim 53 as amended is directed to a power control method of an information processing apparatus connected to a battery. The method includes the steps of receiving data and an external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus, and limiting the external power from the power supplying apparatus to the information processing apparatus. The method also includes the step of providing power for executing processing of the data by the information processing apparatus, the provided power generated by adding a power supplied from the battery into the external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus in a case where a necessary power for the information processing apparatus exceeds the external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus.

Thus, among its many features, the invention of Claim 53 provides for (i) limiting an external power from a power supplying apparatus to an information processing apparatus, and (ii) adding a power supplied from the battery into the external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus in a case where a necessary power for the information processing apparatus exceeds the external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus. The applied references of Eckersley and Kubo are not seen to disclose or suggest at least these features.

As noted above, Eckersley is seen to disclose a power supply system including a master controller (22), slave controller (46) and DC bus (16). However,

nothing in Eckersley is seen to disclose or suggest (i) limiting an external power from a power supplying apparatus to an information processing apparatus, and (ii) adding a power supplied from the battery into the external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus in a case where a necessary power for the information processing apparatus exceeds the external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus.

Kubo is not seen to compensate for the deficiencies of Eckersley. As noted above, Kubo is seen to disclose that a power supply apparatus includes a control mechanism 23, AC adaptor 17 and battery 10, and that a switch 13 controls power from battery 10 to a power supply portion 11. However, Kubo is not seen to disclose or suggest (i) limiting an external power from a power supplying apparatus to an information processing apparatus, and (ii) adding a power supplied from the battery into the external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus in a case where a necessary power for the information processing apparatus exceeds the external power supplied from the power supplying apparatus.

Allowance of Claim 53 is therefore respectfully requested.

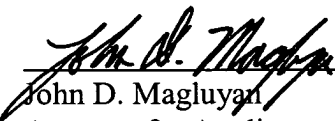
Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claims 51 and 53 as amended are believed to be allowable over the applied references.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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